

STATE OF CONNECTICUT

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION



TO: English Learner Assessment Coordinators

FROM: Janet Stuck, Education Consultant

Special Populations

DATE: January 4, 2021

SUBJECT: LAS Links Remote Test Administration Guidance Resources

Happy New Year! The Connecticut State Department of Education (CSDE) recognizes and appreciates all of your efforts to support Connecticut's students. Your continued commitment to prepare for and administer state assessments that provide one source of evidence to make informed decisions about student learning is so important. For our English learner students this is a measurement of progress towards English language proficiency and exit from the English learner program. The 2021 LAS Links Assessment Window is January 4-March 31, 2021.*

Based upon the impact of the state response to COVID-19, previous stakeholder discussions, surveys, changes in District Learning Models and disproportionate attendance of English learners in school, the CSDE worked with Data Recognition Corporation (DRC) to provide the LAS Links Form D in English to students remotely.

The CSDE recommends the following as best practice for the delivery of the LAS Links Assessment: Depending on the current learning model the student may be using, and following established district safety protocols.

- For eligible students in a fully in-person or hybrid model, proctors can administer the LAS Links over multiple test sessions in the school setting as required during the testing window (January 4-March 31, 2021*).
- Districts may bring students who are currently participating in remote instruction into a secure district location to administer the LAS Links over multiple sessions if proctors are available.
- Proctors may administer the LAS Links remotely to a student who is currently participating in remote instruction in their home over multiple sessions using the DRC provided URL with the Test Monitoring Application and a web-conferencing platform.

The following LAS Links Office Hours have been scheduled to support district staff administering the LAS Links. These webinars with content repeated, will briefly describe current LAS Links guidance resources available for the 2020-21 administration including those for LAS Links Remote administration. Participants will have the opportunity to ask questions of the English Learner Assessment Team. Please register in advance for <u>January 12, 2021</u>, from 12:00 to 1:00 or <u>January 27, 2021</u>, from 3:00 to 4:00.

*End Date Subject to Change

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Below are the LAS Links Remote Guidance Resources available on the <u>Connecticut DRC LAS Links</u> Website.

LAS Links Remote Test Administrator Guidance

- 1. Connecticut LAS Links Remote Instructions for Test Administrators
- 2. Web Conferencing Options for LAS Links Remote Test Administration
- 3. LAS Links Remote Administration Frequently Asked Questions & Answers for Test Administrators
- 4. Connecticut LAS Links Remote Test Administration with Test Monitoring Application PowerPoint
- 5. Video Demo LAS Links Remote Test Administration with Test Monitoring
- 6. Tech Bulletin: Test Monitoring Application
- 7. LAS Links Home Technology Readiness Guide for Test Administrators
- 8. Troubleshooting Tips for LAS Links Remote Test Administration

LAS Links Remote Parent/Guardian Documents

- 1. Parent/Guardian and Student Agreement for LAS Links Remote Testing (English)
- 2. Parent/Guardian LAS Links Remote Testing Checklist (English)

The Parent Guardian Documents are being translated into the following languages and will be posted upon receipt: Spanish, Portuguese, Arabic, Creole-Haitian, Mandarin and Polish.

Additional English Learner Resources

Please access additional English learner resources, on the <u>Connecticut DRC LAS Links Website</u>, the <u>English Language Proficiency Assessment –LAS Links webpage and the CSDE English Learners webpage</u>.

For any questions or concerns about these topics regarding English learners, please contact Janet Stuck at janet.stuck@ct.gov.

Thank you.